



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

2433 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20008
Tel. # (202) 234-5414
Fax # (202) 232-3236

April 30, 2002

Mr. Steven Cary
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Health Studies (EH-6)
U. S. Department of Energy
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

Dear Deputy Assistant Secretary Cary:

I would like to congratulate you on becoming Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Health Studies. I look forward to working closely with you during your tenure and to pursuing goals that are in the best interest of both of our nations.

I am writing to you today to begin preparations for the annual meeting between the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). The RMI Government and representatives of the atolls that receive DOE programs place great importance in these yearly meetings as an opportunity to make progress on a variety of issues.

Given the number of people from the RMI national government and the 4 atolls who have to find a common time for a meeting, it is extremely difficult to find dates that are amenable to the RMI side. Based on a series of meetings with representatives in the RMI, the RMI has found that June 3-4, 2002 would be a suitable time for the annual meeting. With this letter, the RMI Government and the 4 atoll communities would like to propose June 3-4, 2002 in Honolulu as the time and venue for our 2002 annual meeting.

Due to the departure of your predecessor, Dr. Paul Seligman and DOE staff who were familiar with the RMI program, such as Dr. Tom Bell and Mr. Frank Hawkins, I would like to request that Assistant Secretary Geoffrey Judge be included in the annual meeting. Mr. Judge is knowledgeable of RMI issues and I believe his presence would benefit all of us.

The RMI would be pleased to draft a proposed agenda for items to discuss at our annual meeting. I will consult with the 4 atoll communities and send you a draft agenda as soon as it is ready. One of the topics the RMI will want to discuss is the joint

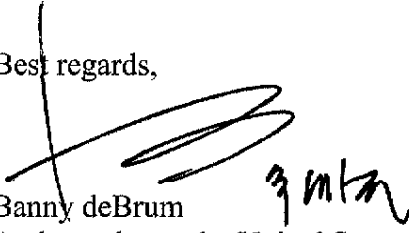
Steven Cary
Page 2
April 30, 2002

communique signed at the last meeting. The DOE and RMI had planned establish 5-year strategic plans for the DOE environmental and medical monitoring program, our planning meetings never took place.

I look forward to working with you to address the goals we laid out in last year's meeting as well as exploring mutually agreeable targets for our upcoming year of work. If possible, I would appreciate hearing a response from you about the June 3-4 dates as soon as possible so people can have as much advance time to make travel preparations as possible.

Again, I look forward to working with you.

Best regards,


Banny deBrum
Ambassador to the United States

Cc: Minister Gerald M. Zackios
Secretary Marie Maddison
Senator Hiroshi Yamamura
Senator Ismael John
Senator Abacca Anjain-Maddison
Senator Tomaki Juda
Mayor Eldon Note
Mayor James Matayama
Mayor Neptali Peter
Mayor Joe Saul
Mr. Jonathan Weisgall
Mr. Davor Pevec
Mr. Howard Hills
Mr. John Masek
Mr. Joseph McDermott, USDOJ
Deputy Asst. Secretary Geoffrey Judge, USDOE